(b) if so, the schemes of financial assistance that can be given; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Tobacoo Board, among other measures, provides financial assistance to the tobacoo growers for the following:—

(1) Improving yield and quality of FCV Tobacco.

(2) Improving curing & storing facilities.

(3) Improving grading through community grading centres.

(4) Control/Monitoring of pesticide residues.

(5) Development of new areas for FCV Tobacco.

(6) On-Farm tests and experimental trials.

Request for funds Under Consumer Welfare Fund

2178. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a request from Andhra Pradesh for an amount of Rs. 1.15 crores from the Consumer Welfare Fund to purchase instruments, Kits etc.;

(b) the reaction of Government to this request;

(c) whether funds have been released to Andhra Pradesh for this purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of the Project have been called for from the state Government for processing the case.

(d) Does not arise.

Amendment of Coal Minies Provident fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948

2179. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring an amendments to the coal mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 in order to provide social security to the work force; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when a bill incorporating the amendments is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Government proposes to introduce a Bill in the current Session of Parliament to amend the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948, to empower Government to formulate a suitable pension scheme for the employees in the Coal Industry.

Public Distribution System in the country

2180. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister fo CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the various types of Public Distribution Systems operating in the country at present;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate any scheme to provide ration to urban poor people at cheaper rates than that to the rural poor people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount spent on food subsidy during 1994-95 and the amount of additional subsidy required for the same during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): (a) to (d) As per present policy of Central Government, there is only one type of Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country. However, in order to improve the functioning of the PDS in backward regions of the country, about 2446 blocks have been covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). In the blocks covered under RPDS, States have been advised to ensure availability of 20 kgs of food grains per household per month. Central Government issues foodgrains meant for distribution in RPDS areas to States/UTs at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices (CIPs) which are Rs. 50/- per quintal lower than the CIPs for the PDS. These specially subsidised CIPs are not applicable to urban agglomerations within the RPDS blocks in non-tribal majority States.

Central Government has no proposal to formulate any scheme for providing ration to urban poor at cheaper rates than are applicable to rural poor.

The total amount of food subsidy (including sugar) during 1994-95 was Rs. 5100 crores as per Revised Estimates. A budgetary provision of Rs. 5250 crores has been made for food subsidy for the year 1995-96.

Hospitals for Workers in Industrial Area

2181. SHRI MOHAN BABU: Will the Minsiter of LABOUR be Pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider a scheme to direct the Provident Fund Commissioner to build and run one high quality hospital for workers in every industrial area;

(b) whether any such plan has been mooted; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

इलाहाबाद जल संस्थान के संबंध में संसद सदस्य स्थानीय क्षेत्र विकास योजना का कार्यान्वयन

2182. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:** क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विशेष रूप से उस योजना के कार्यान्वयन की कोई जांच कराई है, जिसके लिए संसद सदस्य स्थानीय क्षेत्र विकास योजना के अंतर्गत एक सांसद की संस्तुति पर इलाहाबाद के लिजा कलेक्टर द्वारा इलाहाबाद जल संस्थान को धनराशि प्रदान की गई थी,

(ख) क्या मंत्रालय के अतिरिक्त सचिव इस संबंध में जांच करने के लिए इलाहाबाद गए थे और क्या उन्होंने इसकी जांच की थी, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव): (क) और (ख) माननीय संसद सदस्य द्वारा अनुशंसित निर्माण कार्यों के संबंध में जल संस्थान, इलाहाबाद द्वारा सांसद स्थानीय क्षेत्र विकास योजना की निधियों के उपयोग से संबंधित वास्तविक स्थिति का पता लगाने के लिए कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन विभाग के अपर सचिव ने इलाहाबाद का दौरा किया।

(ग) अपर सचिव द्वारा की गई जांच-पड़ताल से पता चला कि माननीय सांसद श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय, डा० एम०एम० जोशी एवं श्रीमती सरोज दुबे द्वारा